has been taken up regularly with Pakistan. Also, during the meeting of the Foreign Secretaries of the two countries on September 4, 2004 in New Delhi, preparatory to the meeting of the Foreign Ministers on September 5-6, 2004, India's proposal for an extradition treaty was reiterated. Pakistan has, so far, not responded positively to these requests or to the proposal for an extradition treaty.

Indo-Us cooperation

1168. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. had agreed to cooperate with India in civilian nuclear energy and had acknowledged India as a nuclear weapons power;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the U.S. had expressed to encourage resolution of Kashmir dispute; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Following Prime Minister's talks with the US President during his visit to Washington D.C. on July 18, 2005, the US President conveyed that he would seek agreement from Congress to adjust US laws and policies, and the United States will work with friends and allies to adjust international regimes to enable full civil nuclear energy cooperation and trade with India, including but not limited to expeditious consideration of fuel supplies for safeguarded nuclear reactors at Tarapur. The United States also agreed to consider India's participation in the ITER fusion project and the Generation IV advanced reactor programme. India was described by President Bush as 'a responsible State with advanced nuclear technology'.

(c) and (d) The US expressed during Prime Minister's visit was that India and Pakistan must resolve their outstanding problems bilaterally.

Talks with USA on Indo-Pak relations

†1169. SHRI P.K. MAHESWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether any talk was held on Indo-Pak relations during Prime Minister's recent visit to America;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have put its stand before America regarding recent disclosure of the fact that Lashkar-e-Taiyaba was involved in recent attack on Ayodhya; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The issue of India-Pakistan relations did feature in discussions during Prime Minister's recent visit to the United States.

(b) Prime Minister reiterated his commitment to the on-going peace dialogue but cautioned that a permanent end to cross-border terrorism was essential for the dialogue to progress.

(c) and (d) Recent developments regarding terrorists incidents in different parts of the world, including India, were covered. The Joint Statement issued after the talks with President Bush applauded the active and vigorous counter terrorism cooperation between the two countries. It recognised that terrorism is a global scourge and one that India and United States will fight everywhere. It also committed the two nations to the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention against international terrorism.

Use of missions to project India's image abroad

1170. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been received to make use of the country's missions abroad to market the country as an economic power and a knowledge society with a rich cultural heritage;

(b) if so, whether any directions have been issued to missions abroad;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the contributions so far made by the missions in this direction other than travel related issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Economic diplomacy is an